

The Greatest Love Of All

CARENECTION

Article by Tom Gilbert — © livingthesolution.com

All You Need is Love. In the Name of Love. What's Love Got To Do With It? These are all titles of popular love songs. Love...it makes the world go round.

You've heard that before, too.

When we look at the world today it's sometimes hard to believe that love has much of a place anymore. There's so much terror and violence. And that breeds fear.

Love does conquer all. Even fear. It does exist. It will triumph over the dark forces.

What Is Love...Really?

The problem may not be so much a lack of love but a misunderstanding of what love really is. The Bible speaks of perfect love. We must understand it is more than affection, more than sentimentality and certainly more than romantic attraction. So often we mistake "feelings" for love.

Sometimes God is described as love. Let's explore this. The Bible has a lot to say on this subject. Jesus particularly had some heavy commentary. Greater love has no one than this...(John 15:13). Once again Jesus was teaching his disciples about His purpose, His mission – to lay down His life as a sacrifice for us. Read the passage in the context of surrounding verses and you see that Jesus was giving us a commandment; to love the same way He loves us. You can measure how great your love for others is by whether or not you are willing to love to the point of laying down your life for your friends.

If you have children you probably are familiar with that deep-seated love that is so strong that at times you literally ache. A good and loving parent would not hesitate to sacrifice their own life to save their child's. If you feel that way, get in touch with that feeling. Now you have inkling of how powerful God's love, as expressed through Christ, is.

Mercy (for) Me

God's great love for us is closely tied to His tremendous merciful forgiveness. We have all sinned, over and over again. Despite this, God never gives up on us! He went to the ultimate length – gave His only son as a sacrifice. He did this to enable us to be reconciled with Him. We fell away and there was no way to get back on our own. So, while we were still sinners Jesus Christ and God teamed up to bring us home.

Obviously, God does not hold a grudge. We're not deserving of this mercy. The grace is given to us anyway. God has forgiven us. Not just forgiven, but removed our sins, our transgressions from us!

Psalm 103

11 For his unfailing love toward those who fear him is as great as the height of the heavens above the earth. 12 He has removed our rebellious acts as far away from us as the east is from the west.

You've heard that we are all made in the image of God. Since this is so, that means we have the capacity within us (as provided by Jesus when we receive Him and agree to His Lordship over our lives) to love like God. I don't know about you, but sometimes I find this hard to fathom. That doesn't make it any less true. Oh, what an awesome God!

Dear Father, thank you so much for your love. Thank you for your mercy and forgiveness. Teach us to be like Jesus. Dwell within us and manifest your love through us. May we obey you and not our own selfish desires. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

firstBaptistchurch September 15th, 2010

Life group prayer and praise

- **Dave and Pat Slater** from Arlington need prayer, he is dying from cancer and is in constant pain. ~ **Sheri**
- Please pray for my long time friend who is like my sister. After losing her mom this past Feb. she has lost her way and has turned from God. Please pray she finds her way back. Please pray for me, I have been feeling like my light is dimming and I want it to shine bright again, I need to be inspired again. ~ **Darcy Stanyo**.
- **Brooklyn's JIA** is in remission, please continue to pray for her, Praise God! I am starting school on Sett. 20th and I need prayer, I am scared, pray that I stick to it and do well and don't give up or frustrated. ~ **Dave McCormick**
- **Earl Stephen's mom Orline** is having triple-bypass surgery in October, please pray for her.
- **Susan Hubert** asks that we pray for **her son** in Bagdad.
- Praise the Lord for giving me another chance at sobriety. I've been drifting too long. I'm back, please pray for effective, healthy growth. ~ **Chris Green**
- **Ruth LeMaster** asks that we pray for her **step son, Terry and his family** that they will be moved up to the top of the list for housing.
- **Donna Arnold** asks that we pray for housing for her ASAP.
- **Pam Elkins** is with **her sister, Paula** who has advanced

Alzheimer's and is dying. Pam would like us to pray for a peaceful passing and traveling mercies. Her sister is still alive (1 week later) and **Luckey** flew to be with Pam.

- **Sharon Young** asks that we pray for **her father Jim**, he is doing better, his kidneys are responding to treatment, he still needs to be in the hospital until they get his meds regulated.
- **Sandra Waldron** is having full replacement knee surgery on September 27th, please pray for her full recovery. ~ **Christen Weller (her mom)**
- **Mark Deiner** fell and is in a great deal of pain, please pray for him.
- I have pain relief in my right knee, I had the shot and it's feeling better but I still need prayer for continued healing ~ **Eva LaStrange**
- **Cathy Fuller, Mouse's sister-in-law**, is suffering from kidney failure and is waiting for a new kidney.
- My son **Nathan** still needs a fulltime job. Pray for **my sister, Sharon** and **her son Johnny**, for strength and wisdom. Pray also, for my sister's daughter **Karen** that she makes wise choices. ~ **Carol Kelly**
- Please keep **Dan Cook** in prayer as they seek answers to some medical concerns.
- **Rose Toscano** is asking prayer for continued healing for her children.

***Adult attendance: 9:00am 64 & 10:30am 238 ***Children: 9am 14 + 5 — 10:30am 20 + 8

***Elementary: 9am 30 + 5 — 10:30 am 41 + 6

***Youth Small Group: 24 + 4 — Middle School: 17 + 3

The new Ross Point memory books are now at the Adult Discipleship table in the Pacific Room. They will be kept in the library for a time. We have VBS CD's in the office, if you purchased one and haven't picked it up, please do so now.

It is September and we are starting our Fall American Baptist Mission Ministry with an out-standing program. We will meet Thursday, Sept. 16th with a noon luncheon by Mary Beth. We are hoping for a good attendance to welcome retired Pastor Art and Carolyn Johns as they present a program on their mission to Nagaland (near Burma). These former headhunters are now a Christian nation. Please make your reservations with Faith, or call the church office 425.259.9166.



Life Group Happenings

all in the family

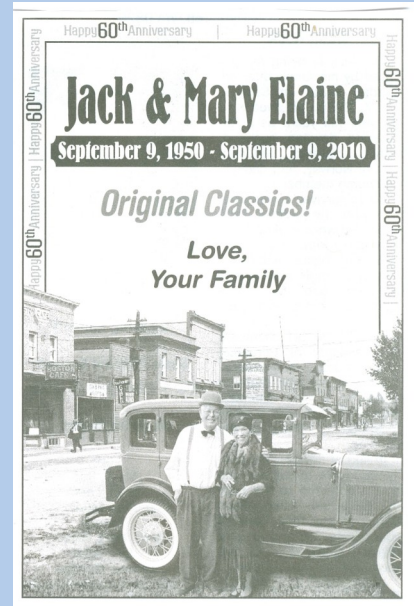
by **florence miller**

CONGRATULATIONS! To **Jack and Mary Elaine Burgess** who celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary this past Saturday. In 1950 they walked down the aisle of the "old" Baptist church which was situated on Lombard and Hewitt the block where Comcast Arena is located. It's been a fruitful and good marriage with five wonderful offspring. All five were in attendance for the celebration which was held at Jim and Dixie's home. It was a perfect place to have the festivities as the Jim Erickson residence has a big yard conducive to the 40 relatives who gathered for the salmon barbeque. The sun also shone! Son John and wife Dar traveled from Hawaii; son Matthew from Nashville; daughter Mary Jo from the Portland area (her husband couldn't attend as he was coaching a soccer game); daughter Jan and Jon from this area and the hosts, son Jim and Dixie. There were four grandchildren and their families in attendance along with seven great-grandchildren. Mary Elaine's brother Don and Pat were there as well as Joan Erickson, brother Jim's widow.

Jack and Mary Elaine are looking good and we are looking forward to celebrating their 70th! The accompanying picture is of Jack's 1929 Town Sedan Model A Ford with Jack and Mary Elaine dressed in appropriate attire for that era.

Connie and Mel Tessness are home from South Dakota where they traveled to be with Mel's Mom, Georgia, as she went through surgery to replace her defibrillator batteries. She is now home and doing very well in spite of Mel's concern that at age 91 the surgery might prove too much for her. Praises!

USED BOOK SALE! **Sunday, September 19th SAM** (Senior Adult Ministries) will once again offer used books for sale, using the proceeds for their mission projects. The venue has changed and is now in a more permanent location in room B110 which is a room just up a short flight of steps from the kitchen. Come on down after the 10:30 church service!



S.A.M. Happenings

David Miller told of the new placement of our used books for sale. They are now neatly arranged and on display in Room B110. The room will be open on Sunday the 19th after the 10:30 service for anyone in the church who would like to purchase books. Also, the book room will be open on the third Sunday of both October and November. The books are \$1.00 each or six for \$5.00. All proceeds go into our missions fund.

Upcoming date: Sept. 22nd join us for the Red Tail Canyon Farm Hayride and BBQ—sign up now, just \$35.00 each.

The vans will leave the parking lot promptly at 8:00 a.m. so please arrive by **7:45 a. m**

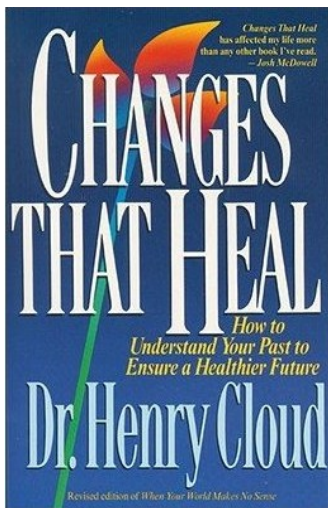
*Would anybody be interested in befriending and encouraging
Navy women who have been attending our church and are now deployed?*

*We have several and have a need. Please contact Jeanne Iversen
if you would be willing to help in any way.*

Lifegroup Contributing Opportunities



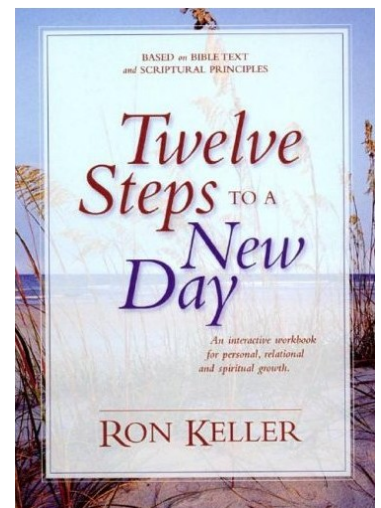
Lyly and Larry are having a baby! Please come and celebrate the upcoming birth of the Gallagher's first baby at a shower Saturday, September 18th at 7 pm in the Pacific Room at First Baptist Church. Lyly and Larry have been attending FBC for several years, and were married by Pastor Brian in 2007. She's from Indonesia and he's from Oregon! The summer after their marriage, they went to Jakarta, Indonesia for a month so Larry could meet her family. Larry and Lyly are both a part of our usher team and have served in the balcony for the past year. Please RSVP to Betty Reeves or Laura Oversvee. Hope to see you on the 18th at 7 pm.



We have two new **Women's Lifegroups** starting Wednesday, September 15th, 10-11:30 a.m. here at FBC. "**Changes that Heal**" is one and the cost for the book and workbook will be \$20.00. The class will be held in the Fireside Room (B106). For more information please contact Eva LaStrange or Carol Kelly .

"**Twelve Steps to a New Day**" by Ron Keller will be in room B105 and the book will be \$12.00. For more information about this class please contact Deanna Baird or Pamela Dehnhoff .

To sign up for either one of these classes, you can fill out a yellow communication card, call either one of the teachers or call the church office at 425-259-9166.



USHER CAPTAIN 2010:

September—Darrell Olson
Marc Owenby
October—Pete Sontra
Lucky Elkins

COFFEE HOUR 2010

September 19th
Deanna Baird
Life Issues
September 26th
Ruelyn Nelson
Women of Purpose
October 03
Dan Clark
Harbor Point Lifegroup
October 10
Bill Erickson
Clipper Class
October 17th
Tom Warren
Men of Integrity



September 15th

John Lindsay

September 19th

Margit McCowan

September 21st

Jeanne Iversen